

# THE PowerLines REPORT

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February 2019

## Changing Our Business to Help Yours Succeed



Jasen Bronec, CEO

What is your favorite place to grab a cup of coffee? Your go-to place for a romantic dinner? Or the one place you end up every Saturday morning for some watchamacallits you forgot you needed to finish up a home improvement project? Chances are, I hope, you are listing off a local community business as you answer those questions.

Local businesses are an important part of the fabric of our communities; from coffee shops to clothing boutiques and hardware stores to restaurants—the list of locally owned and operated businesses is long. Even longer is the list of how much these businesses impact each and every one of us. As both local businesses and vital utility services, DMEA and Elevate understand we play an important role in the ability of our fellow businesses to be successful and continue to serve our neighbors and friends.

Recently, Elevate had an opportunity to stay true to our word. Elevate found a way to provide the same reliable and fast service at a lower price, and since we believe in doing the right thing, we passed that savings along to you.

Here's what our business internet rates look like now:

100 Mbps	\$79.95/mo.
300 Mbps	\$159.95/mo. (was \$249.95)
1 Gig (1,000 Mbps)	\$319.95/mo. (was \$499.95)

I'm happy to announce that all current Elevate business internet customers will see this change on their February bill. And, before you ask, no, these prices aren't some gimmick. While from time to time we do have special offers, we don't believe in playing pricing games. The rates you see here are guaranteed long-term with no strings attached.

We know most of you who own and operate our local businesses wear a lot of hats. You are the CEO, accountant, customer service rep, IT guru, salesman, and marketing director all-in-one. This makes it hard for you to focus on what you really love, growing your business and serving your customers. We hope this change helps you breathe a bit easier knowing you're getting reliable, high-speed internet backed by a rock-solid fiber network at a fair price—all supported by another dedicated local business right here at home. Thank you for letting us serve you.

### Want to learn more about business internet from Elevate?

Contact our Elevate Business Specialist:

**Jason Martin**  
[jason.martin@elevatefiber.com](mailto:jason.martin@elevatefiber.com)  
 970-240-6884

Read more about our business internet and phone services at [elevateinternet.com/elevate-business](http://elevateinternet.com/elevate-business).



Jason Martin







# AVOID ELEVATE LOOK-ALIKE SCAMS

## How to spot imposters

Scammers are everywhere. They often try to engage you by pretending to be a person or an organization you trust. In recent months, Elevate customers have been targeted by pop-up scams like the ones displayed on the right. Here are a few tips to help you avoid being scammed:

### Fake vs. real

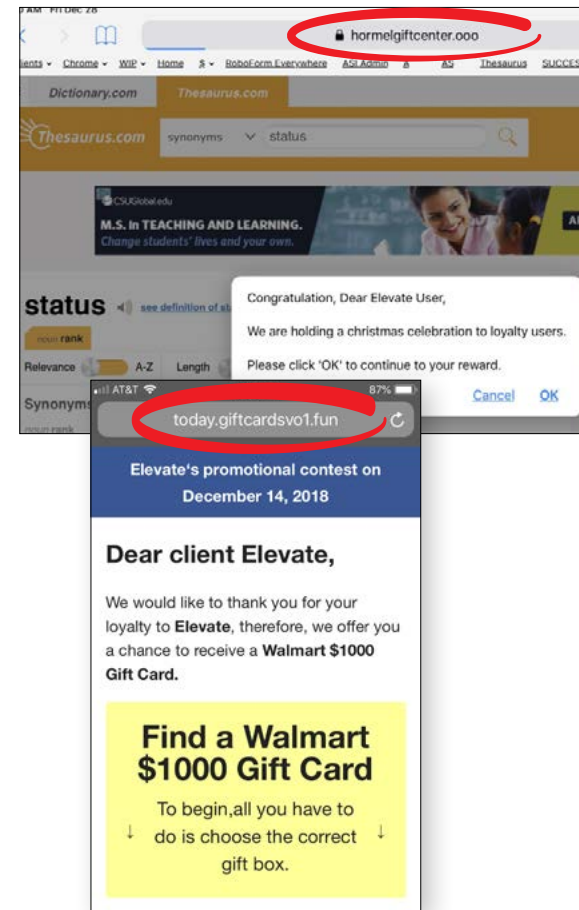
- Elevate messages will always include our logo and legitimate contact information. Be suspicious of emails or mailings that don't include this information.
- Examine the URL where the message is coming from. If it is not a legitimate "elevateinternet.com" URL, do not respond to the ad. Check out the examples on the right of real scams. The URL is circled in red on each example (see right).
- Elevate will never ask you for money outside of your normal billing reminders. To pay your Elevate bill, you need to log in to your online account. Don't send money or give out personal information in response to an unexpected request — whether it comes as a text, a phone call, or an email.

### Stay educated

- Don't pay upfront for a promise. Scammers might ask you to pay in advance for things like discounts on services. They might even say you've won a prize, but first you have to pay taxes or fees. Elevate will never ask you to pay for gifts or prizes.
- Be skeptical about free trial offers. From time to time, Elevate offers special discounts on services. Before you agree to discounts or a free trial be aware that we will never charge you upfront for promotional offers. To be on the safe side, it's always a good idea to review your monthly statements for charges you don't recognize.
- Sign up for free scam alerts from the FTC at [ftc.gov/scams](http://ftc.gov/scams). Get the latest tips and advice about scams sent right to your inbox.

As your local provider of internet, TV, and phone, Elevate cares about your online safety.

### Examples of Recent Pop-up Scams



If you ever have any question about messages you receive from us, please contact us at 844-386-8744 or visit:

#### Montrose Headquarters

11925 6300 Road, Montrose  
Mon., Wed., & Fri.; 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
Tue., & Thurs.; 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM

#### Read Service Center

21191 H 75 Road, Delta  
Monday & Wednesday;  
9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

# How Can You Help Guide Your Co-op?

Delta-Montrose Electric Association is your member-owned rural electric cooperative. It belongs to you and your fellow member owners. DMEA's success depends on prudent guidance from its board of directors, made up of nine, democratically-elected individuals from the membership. The board governs the cooperative by setting strategic goals, electric rates, and cooperative policies.

### 2019 Election Information

Each year, DMEA holds an election to determine the representatives from three of the nine board districts. In 2019, **District #3**, **District #4**, and the **South Region** board seats are up for election. Eligible members who live in these districts may become candidates. To confirm in which district/region you reside, call 877-687-3632 or visit [www.dmea.com/content/service-area](http://www.dmea.com/content/service-area).

### Key Dates

**Friday, April 5** - Nomination petition packets available from DMEA.

**Monday, May 6** - Deadline to return nomination petition packets, including 15 member signatures and profile information.

**Tuesday, May 28** - Ballots and candidate backgrounds mailed to DMEA members.

**Friday, June 14** - Postmark deadline for mail-in ballots.

**Thursday, June 20** - DMEA Annual Meeting of Members. You may vote in person at the meeting if you did not vote by mail.

### Candidate Qualifications

In order to seek election as a DMEA board representative you must meet the following qualifications:

- be an individual over 21 years of age;
- be a member of the co-op and meet the residency requirements in DMEA policies as of the deadline date for submitting a petition as a candidate and maintain residency during the term of office;
- may not have been an employee of DMEA for a period of three years immediately before becoming a director;
- while serving as a director, may not be employed by DMEA in any position and may not be employed by DMEA for a period of three years after leaving the board;
- while serving on the board, may not be a relative of a DMEA employee (relative defined as a spouse, daughter, son, father, mother, sister, brother, mother-in-law, father-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, or sister-in-law);
- must adhere to DMEA's Director Duties & Standards of Conduct and Conflict of Interest policies.

### Becoming a Candidate

Pick up a nomination petition packet starting April 5, 2019, at a DMEA office during regular business hours. Complete the packet and return all required documents, including 15 member signatures supporting your candidacy, no later than **4:00 pm, Monday, May 6, 2019**. Petitions must be returned during normal business hours. If all qualifications have been met, you will be notified of your candidacy within one week.

#### DMEA Montrose Headquarters

11925 6300 Road, Montrose  
Mon., Wed., & Fri.; 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
Tue., & Thurs.; 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM

#### Read Service Center

21191 H 75 Road, Delta  
Monday & Wednesday; 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

## Photo Contest Winner

Lacie Pipher, Hotchkiss



Grand Mesa, January 1

I started into photography from the other side of the camera, modeling for friends when I was in college. I soon found that I like being the one holding the camera more than being in front of it. I finally took the leap and bought a DSLR in the fall of 2018, and have already seen an improvement on my part. I've never taken a course in photography and have really learned what I know by trial and error and input from friends.



My passions are my family, horses, and the great outdoors; and these are the things that inspire me. My family, as well as my husband's, have lived in the North Fork for over 100 years, and with my photography I love to share the beauty of the area that has kept them here. I enjoy taking my family on adventures in our own back yard and beyond. To see more of my work, check out Lacie Allen Art/Photography on Facebook or my website at <https://lrpipher.wixsite.com/lacieallen>.

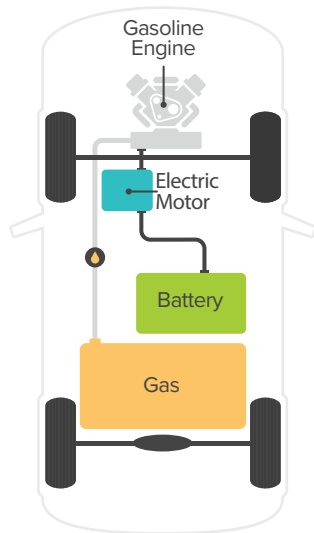


## Types of Electric Vehicles

If you're looking to purchase an electric vehicle, use this cheat sheet to help determine the various options. Drivers can choose between three types of electric vehicles (EVs). EVs are classed by the amount of electricity that is used as their energy source.



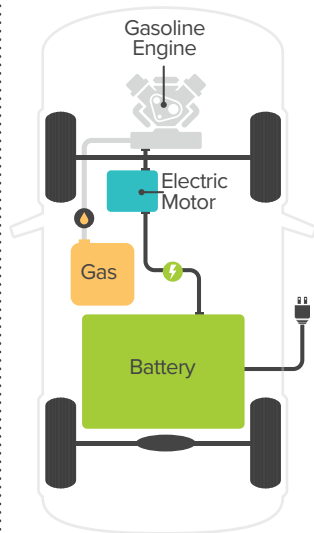
Fuel:  
Gasoline



**HEV**  
HYBRID ELECTRIC  
VEHICLE



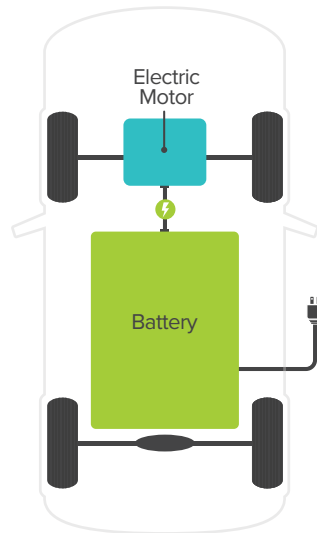
Fuel:  
Gasoline and/or  
electricity from grid



**PHEV**  
PLUG-IN HYBRID  
ELECTRIC  
VEHICLE



Fuel:  
100% electricity  
from grid



**BEV**  
BATTERY ELECTRIC  
VEHICLE

Source: Electric Power Research Institute



The DMEA PowerLines Report is printed on paper that has 10% post consumer waste and is Forest Stewardship Council and Sustainable Forestry Initiative Certified.



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

**Montrose Office**  
11925 6300 Road  
Montrose, CO 81401  
M - F; 8:00am-5:00pm

**Read Office**  
21191 H 75 Road  
Delta, CO 81416  
M & W; 9:00am-4:00pm

**Contact Us:**  
1-877-687-3632 | www.dmea.com |

### Your Board of Directors:

Bill Patterson, District 1  
Brad Harding, District 3  
Chris Hauck, District 5  
Mark Eckhart, District 7  
Tony Prendergast, South

Kyle Martinez, District 2  
Ken Watson, District 4  
Damon Lockhart, District 6  
Vacant, North

DMEA Board Meetings are open to all members and are generally held on the 4th Tuesday monthly beginning at 3PM with the public comment period at 5PM. Call 970-240-1212 to confirm date, time, and location.

## Be Bright

with smart LED lights.

Make your LED light bulbs even more efficient with smart LEDs. They connect to your WiFi so you can turn them off even if you are at the office. Plus you can control brightness, warmth, and color.

### Worth the \$\$\$

Smart light bulbs may look similar to regular bulbs, but they can cost approximately \$25-\$50 per bulb. But, being LED, they are designed to last for tens of thousands of hours before failing, so you still get your money's worth.

### Many choices

There are several manufacturers to pick from such as Philips Hue, Lixf, and WiZ. IKEA also has a lighting system—Tradfri. Some brands allow their bulbs to work with other systems, but for the most part, it is worth picking one and sticking with it.

When smart lights are installed, your old wall switches will still switch the bulbs on and off. But it is generally recommended that you leave the switches in the on position and instead, control the lights via their app, wireless switches, or a voice assistant.

Whether you want more light or to add new lighting to the living room, kitchen, bedroom or even the garden, smart lighting is here to help.

DMEA and Elevate, harnessing today's technology to help you manage your energy use.

# GOT ELEVATE INTERNET?

We're working to bring fiber internet, TV, and phone to all our communities. To do that, we are building more than 3,000 miles of fiber from the ground up. Our project spans 50 different zones across Montrose and Delta counties. To date, 21 of those zones either have live service or just kicked off construction. Thank you members for your unwavering support!

So, just exactly where can you get Elevate?

**Cedaredge: 125 & 126**

**Orchard City: 104 & 112**

**Montrose: 336, 415, 417, 418, 425, 426, 427, W 428B, 721, W 741, & 813**

**Olathe: 138**

**Hotchkiss: 48**

**Paonia: 45, 47, & 55**

**Crawford: 57 subzone**

Now, we know those zones might not make much sense to you. How are you supposed to know in which zone you live? Find out if you can get Elevate by visiting [elevateinternet.com](http://elevateinternet.com). Enter your address and click GET ELEVATE. You'll find out if your home is in a live zone or not. If it is, just follow a few easy steps to sign up and you're set.

If you're not in a live zone, be sure to continue on and preregister so your name gets added to the list of supporters and helps your zone get closer to its sign up goal. Then spread the word to your neighbors and friends, and tell them to join too.

### Fast Internet (for real)

100 Mbps for \$49.95/mo.

1 Gig (1,000 Mbps) for \$79.95/mo.

### Simple TV

Local Lineup for \$29.95/mo.

Expanded for \$84.95/mo.

Extreme for \$109.95/mo.

### Reliable Home Phone

One line for \$30/mo.

## HOME COOKING



## CREAMY SAUSAGE & TORTELLINI SOUP

Recipe from Donna Hebein, Montrose

### Ingredients:

- 1 lb. Italian sausage
- 1 small yellow onion, diced
- 1 small shallot, diced
- 2 large carrots, peeled and diced
- 4 garlic cloves, minced
- ¼ c. all-purpose flour
- 5 c. chicken broth
- 14 oz. refrigerated cheese tortellini
- 1 tsp. kosher sea salt
- ½ tsp. ground black pepper
- ½ tsp. Italian seasoning
- 6 ounces chopped fresh spinach
- 2 c. half & half (or heavy cream)

### Directions:

In a large stockpot set over medium-high heat, cook the sausage until browned. Using a slotted spoon, transfer the cooked sausage to a paper towel lined plate; set aside.

Add onion, shallot and carrot, sauté for 5 minutes or until the vegetables are soft. Add the garlic and sauté for an additional 2 minutes, or until fragrant, stirring occasionally to prevent it from burning.

Whisk in the flour and cook for 1 minute. Gradually add in the chicken broth, whisk to combine. Continue cooking until the mixture reaches a simmer, then reduce heat to medium-low and simmer for 6 minutes.

Pat as much grease as possible off of the sausage, then add it along with the tortellini, salt, pepper, Italian seasoning, spinach, and half & half. Simmer for 5 minutes, or until the tortellini is fully cooked.

Serve immediately with freshly grated Parmesan, if desired.

**Yield:** 4-6 servings

Submit your best recipe, along with your name and address, to [communications@dmea.com](mailto:communications@dmea.com).

DMEA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html) or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).